[11th March 1959

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Whether this is an international question or not, the Government of India have also been looking into this question and I have just now mentioned that there is a proposal to start a Co-operative Spinning Mill for the benefit of the refugees. In that matter the Government of India are very much interested.

The Madras Public Health Act

* 704 *Q.*—SRI T. T. DANIEL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Madras Public Health Act, 1939 (Madras Act III of 1939) has been extended to the Kanyakumari district?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : No, Sir.

SRI T. T. DANIEL : Will the Government consider the desirability of extending the Madras Public Health Act, 1939 to the transferred territory also as early as possible?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : The difficulty now is that area is covered by the Travancore-Cochin Public Health Act whose provisions are substantially different from those of the Madras Act. The Government have issued instructions for a scrutiny of these provisions with a view to finding out whether there will be any need for amending our own Act to suit certain peculiar conditions there. After that examination, necessary action will be taken.

SRI T. T. DANIEL : May I know approximately within what time the Government will be able to bring in necessary legislation?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : As early as possible.

Import of rice

* 705 *Q.*—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representations have been made to the Government of India for the allotment of imported rice to the State; and

(*b*) if so, the quantity allotted for the current year?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) In view of the answer to clause (*a*) this does not arise.

* 706 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state whether this Government have requested the Centre in 1958 to arrange for the import of Chinese rice for supply to this State?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : No, Sir.